being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways.

Annual Plan for Rajasthan and Sikkim

2275. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that estimates against approved Annual Plan 2007-08 for Rajasthan and Sikkim States is pending in his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the action Government is taking for early approval of these estimates for timely utilization of allocated fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Out of the proposals included in approved Annual Plan, estimates for National Highway works are sanctioned based on funds available, *inter-se*-priority of works and prescribed limit for the amount of sanction for the State. Estimates amounting to Rs. 173.73 crore have already been sanctioned during 2007-08 as per the prescribed sanction limit for Rajasthan.

There is no Annual Plan 2007-08 for Sikkim State as the only National Highway No 31A passing through the State is entrusted to Border Roads Organization and is maintained under G.S. funding.

Maintenance of NHs

†2276. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is formulating a clear cut policy for the maintenance of roads being four-laned by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during their construction.

(b) whether NHAI is maintaining the Udaipur city portion of National Highway No. 76; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes Sir. During construction period, the maintenance of the existing roads is being done by the civil contractor engaged for four laning work for which adequate provision has been made in the contract.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The four lane Udaipur bypass is under construction by NHAI and presently NH-76 passes through the city portion of Udaipur which is being maintained by NHAI till the construction of Udaipur bypass is completed.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.